



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

Leslie Rousseau
1100 South Moline Street
Aurora CO 80012

COPY MAILED

MAR 25 2008

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of Rousseau	:	
Application No. 10/733,008	:	Decision on Petition
Filing Date: December 10, 2003	:	
For: Device And Method For Translating	:	
Language	:	

This is a decision on the petition filed November 5, 2007, under 37 CFR 1.181 to withdraw the holding of abandonment of the above-identified application.

The petition is **dismissed**.

Facts:

A non-final Office action was mailed April 10, 2007. The Office action set an extendable period for reply of three months.

The maximum statutory period for reply to the non-final Office action was October 10, 2007.

On October 10, 2007, petitioner mailed a reply to the non-final Office action along with a \$525 payment for a three-month extension of time. The reply was not mailed using the United States Postal Service. The reply was mailed using Federal Express.

The Office received the reply on October 11, 2007.

Discussion:

By statute, the application is abandoned unless a reply was "filed" on or before October 10, 2007. In other words, the Office lacks the authority to withdraw the holding of abandonment unless the petition demonstrates a reply was filed on or before October 10, 2007.

Normally, a paper is filed with the Office on the date the paper is received. However, 35 U.S.C. 21 states, with emphasis added.

The Director [of the U.S.P.T.O.] may by rule prescribe that any paper or fee required to be filed ... will be considered filed in the Office on the date on which it was deposited within the *United States Postal Service*....

Since the reply was not mailed using the United States Postal Service, the Office is statutorily required to consider the filing date of the paper to be the date of receipt- October 11, 2007.

Since the filing date of the reply is October 11, 2007, the application is abandoned.

Current Option:

Petitioner may wish to consider filing a petition to revive based on unintentional abandonment under 37 CFR 1.137(b). A grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) must be accompanied by the required reply (already submitted), the required petition fee (\$770 for a small entity), and a statement that the **entire** delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional.

Petitioner submitted \$525 for an extension of time on October 11, 2007, beyond the maximum extendable period for reply. Therefore, petitioner may request a refund of the fee. In the alternative, if a petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) is filed, petitioner may request the \$525 be applied towards the petition fee and submit an additional \$245 ($\$525 + \$245 = \770).

A petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) form is enclosed for petitioner's convenience. A PDF "fillable" version of the form can be found at: http://www.uspto.gov/web/forms/sb0064_fill.pdf.

Additional information:

The heading of papers filed with the Office:

The top portion of the first page of the petition states,

In re application of [:] 10/733,008

Application No. 2004122678

In future papers, in order to ensure papers are promptly matched with the file, please take the following actions:

- (1) Type your name, "Rousseau," after the words "In re application of", and
- (2) Type the application number, 10/733,008, after the words, "Application No."

Information with respect to the use of Certificate of Mailing/Transmission practice:

As a courtesy, please find attached a brief description of Certificate of Mailing/Transmission practice.

Time period and address for a request for reconsideration or petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b):

Any request for reconsideration or petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) should be submitted within TWO (2) MONTHS from the mail date of this decision.

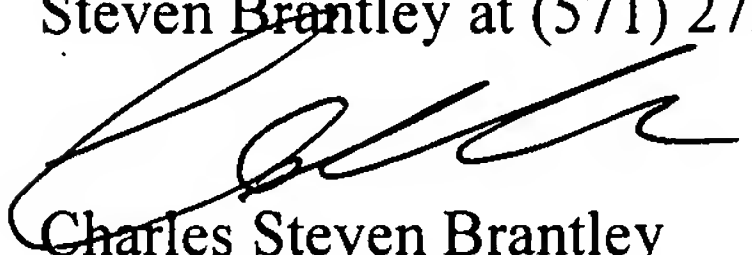
Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By mail: Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By facsimile: (571) 273-8300
Attn: Office of Petitions

By hand: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Telephone inquiries regarding this communication should be directed to Petitions Attorney
Steven Brantley at (571) 272-3203.



Charles Steven Brantley
Senior Petitions Attorney
Office of Petitions

Attached: PTO/SB/64 form
Explanation of how to use Certificate of Mailing Practice
Form PTO/SB/21
Privacy Act Statement

**PETITION FOR REVIVAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR PATENT
ABANDONED UNINTENTIONALLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.137(b)**

Docket Number (Optional)

First named inventor:

Application No.:

Art Unit:

Filed:

Examiner:

Title:

Attention: Office of Petitions
Mail Stop Petition
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
 FAX (571) 273-8300

NOTE: If information or assistance is needed in completing this form, please contact Petitions
 Information at (571) 272-3282.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to file a timely and proper reply to a notice or action by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The date of abandonment is the day after the expiration date of the period set for reply in the office notice or action plus an extensions of time actually obtained.

APPLICANT HEREBY PETITIONS FOR REVIVAL OF THIS APPLICATION

NOTE: A grantable petition requires the following items:

- (1) Petition fee;
- (2) Reply and/or issue fee;
- (3) Terminal disclaimer with disclaimer fee - required for all utility and plant applications filed before June 8, 1995; and for all design applications; and
- (4) Statement that the entire delay was unintentional.

1. Petition fee

☐ Small entity-fee \$ _____ (37 CFR 1.17(m)). Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

☐ Other than small entity - fee \$ _____ (37 CFR 1.17(m))

2. Reply and/or fee

A. The reply and/or fee to the above-noted Office action in the form of _____ (identify type of reply):

- ☐ has been filed previously on _____
- ☐ is enclosed herewith.

B. The issue fee and publication fee (if applicable) of \$ _____

- ☐ has been paid previously on _____
- ☐ is enclosed herewith.

[Page 1 of 2]

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.137(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

3. Terminal disclaimer with disclaimer fee

☐ Since this utility/plant application was filed on or after June 8, 1995, no terminal disclaimer is required.

☐ A terminal disclaimer (and disclaimer fee (37 CFR 1.20(d)) of \$ _____ for a small entity or \$ _____ for other than a small entity) disclaiming the required period of time is enclosed herewith (see PTO/SB/63).

4. **STATEMENT:** The entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the required reply until the filing of a grantable petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional. [NOTE: The United States Patent and Trademark Office may require additional information if there is a question as to whether either the abandonment or the delay in filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional (MPEP 711.03(c), subsections (III)(C) and (D)).]

WARNING:

Petitioner/applicant is cautioned to avoid submitting personal information in documents filed in a patent application that may contribute to identity theft. Personal information such as social security numbers, bank account numbers, or credit card numbers (other than a check or credit card authorization form PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes) is never required by the USPTO to support a petition or an application. If this type of personal information is included in documents submitted to the USPTO, petitioners/applicants should consider redacting such personal information from the documents before submitting them to the USPTO. Petitioner/applicant is advised that the record of a patent application is available to the public after publication of the application (unless a non-publication request in compliance with 37 CFR 1.213(a) is made in the application) or issuance of a patent. Furthermore, the record from an abandoned application may also be available to the public if the application is referenced in a published application or an issued patent (see 37 CFR 1.14). Checks and credit card authorization forms PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes are not retained in the application file and therefore are not publicly available.

Signature

Date

Typed or printed name

Registration Number, if applicable

Address

Telephone Number

Address

Enclosures: ☐ Fee Payment

☐ Reply

☐ Terminal Disclaimer Form

☐ Additional sheets containing statements establishing unintentional delay

☐ Other: _____

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR 1.8(a)]

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being:

☐ Deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

☐ Transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at (571) 273-8300.

Date

Signature

Typed or printed name of person signing certificate

Privacy Act Statement

The **Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579)** requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (*i.e.*, GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

Certificate of Mailing Practice:

Using "Certificate of Mailing" procedures, one may ensure that certain papers filed with the Office are considered timely even if the Office does not physically receive the papers until after the end of the period of time for reply.

Example: A reply is due by May 1, 2006.

A reply is mailed with the United States Postal Service on May 1, 2006.

The reply is delayed in the mail and is not delivered to the USPTO until May 5, 2006.

If the reply was properly mailed using "Certificate of Mailing" procedures, the reply will be considered timely even though the reply was received on May 5, 2006.

"Certificate of Mailing" procedures can allow one to prove a paper was timely mailed when USPTO records fail to indicate the paper was received.

The first step in using "Certificate of Mailing" is placing the proper language on a portion of each paper being submitted or placing the certification language on a separate sheet. If the certification is presented on a separate sheet, that sheet must:

- (1) be signed,
- (2) be securely attached to the papers filed, **AND**
- (3) fully and completely identify each paper being attached, e.g., reply to final rejection, Notice of Appeal, etc.

A suggested format for the Certificate of Mailing can be found below.

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage on (put the DATE) as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Typed or printed name of person signing this certificate

Signature: _____

One may also use "Certificate of Mailing" procedures to submit a paper by facsimile transmission. If use for facsimile transmission, the certification is called a "Certificate of Transmission." A suggested format for the Certificate of Transmission can be found below.

Certificate of Transmission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. (571) 273-8300) on (put the date).

Typed or printed name of person signing this certificate

Signature: _____

The second step necessary to properly use "Certificate of Mailing" procedures requires the individual who will be mailing or sending the paper(s) by facsimile transmission to complete the information in the Certificate of Mailing or Transmission *on the date it will be mailed or transmitted*.

The third step is to make a copy of the paper(s) and retain the copy of the papers. The copy should be made *after* the Certificate has been properly completed (dated, signed, etc.).

The fourth step, when one wishes to mail the paper, is mailing the paper by first class using the United States Postal Service on the date listed in the Certificate. The term "first class mail" also includes papers mailed with the USPS by Express Mail or Priority Mail.

The fourth step, when one wishes to transmit the paper, is sending the transmission on the date listed in the Certificate, obtaining a sheet from the sending unit verifying the transmission was successful, and retaining the sheet.

It should be noted that the benefits of a Certificate of Mailing/Transmission procedures do not apply to all papers.¹ In addition to the exceptions listed in the footnote, one may not use a Certificate of *Transmission* for some drawing submissions. However, since sending a paper by facsimile transmissions degrades the quality of the image, a person in the United States may wish to mail drawings even in circumstances where the drawings could be submitted by facsimile transmission.

The following page is a copy of a suggested Transmittal Form prepared by the Office. Please note the Certificate of Mailing/Transmission located on the bottom of the form.

¹ Certificate of Mailing or Transmission practice does not apply to the submission of original application papers, Continued Prosecution Applications, some papers related to interference practice, the filing of an international application, the filing of papers in an international application, and the filing of copy of international application and fee required to enter national stage.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	
	Filing Date	
	First Named Inventor	
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; min-height: 100px;"> Remarks </div>		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name			
Signature			
Printed name			
Date		Reg. No.	

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature			
Typed or printed name		Date	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (*i.e.*, GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
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